GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1140
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2003
PRODUCTION OF BIO-FERTILIZERS
A.F. GOLAM OSMANI;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to produce bio-fertilizers and bio-control agents with the help of private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the shortage of bio-fertilizers and bio control agents are posing serious threat to farmers in the country;

(d) if so, the remedial measures taken by the Government to meet such shortage; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHHATTRA PAL SINGH)

(a) to (e) The Government of India have been implementing a Central Sector Scheme on National Project on Development and Use of Biofertilizers since 6th plan for production and promotion of biofertilizers. Under the scheme 122 biofertilizer production units, consisting of 83 Government of India supported units with an installed capacity of 10525 tonnes and 39 private units with an installed capacity of 7975 tonnes, are engaged in production of biofertilizers. The aggregate production capacity is 18,500 tonnes. However, the estimated production is 10,000 tonnes/annum. In case of rise in demand of biofertilizers, the unutilized production capacity can be utilized.

To promote the increasing demand of biocontrol agents/biopesticides, it is proposed in the Xth Five Year Plan to encourage the private entrepreneurs and Non Government Orgnisations (NGOs) to open mass production units of biocontrol agents/biopesticides to cover all parts of the country. These efforts will ensure the easy and timely availability of biocontrol agents and biopesticides to the farmers in villages. The shortage of biocontrol agents/biopesticides are not posing any serious threat to farmers in the country. There are more than 400 production units of biocontrol agents/biopesticides in States/UTs under the control of Central/State Governments and private entrepreneurs which are engaged in their multiplication.